



# The Canal Zone Philatelist



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## President's Report

Jim Crumpacker

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All's for the best in the best of all possible worlds. While that statement does not describe the human condition, it is almost applicable to the Canal Zone Study Group. My term as incoming President is made much easier when positions such as Mail Sale Coordinator and Editor of the *Canal Zone Philatelist* are newly spoken for. Our Treasury is among the most fulsome in philately and a CZSG website is expected to come on line later this year.

Much of the seamless transition from 1997 to the present has been due to the efforts of departing CZP Editor David Leeds, who has completed five outstanding years guiding the quality product you view. David is now free to pursue his treatises on many aspects of Isthmian philately.

Our thanks to outgoing CZSG President Tom Brougham for his two years of active service. A resident of the San Francisco area, the ultimate burden of organization

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Meeting Notices

CZSG regional meetings:

WESTPEX 98, San Francisco, CA, Cathedral Hill Hotel, Van Ness at Geary, San Francisco, May 1-3, 1998. CZSG Meeting Saturday, May 2, at 1 p.m. In addition to the regular meeting there will be a slide presentation of construction views of the building of the Panama Canal, circa 1910. Bring your "show and tell" and any items you wish to have expertised. For information contact R.H. Salz at 60-27th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121

PHILATELIC SHOW 98, Boxborough, MA, Holiday Inn Boxborough, Route 111 at I-495, exit 28, May 1-3. CZSG Meeting, May 2, 10:00 a.m.

## Celebrate the Century Panama Canal Stamp

The U.S. Postal Service unveiled the Panama Canal stamp in the Museum of San Diego History, Casa de Balboa, Balboa Park, San Diego, January 28, 1998 before an audience of 150 invited guests. The stamp is the 24th of a series of 30 stamps unveiled over a 30 consecutive day period in the Celebrate the Century Program. They honor memorable and significant events in each decade of the 20th Century.

"The creation of the Panama Canal was an engineering milestone that revolutionized world travel", said Michael S. Coughlin, Deputy Postmaster General. After 10 years of construction, the Panama Canal opened August 15, 1914, reducing the voyage between the oceans by 8,000 miles. After the failed attempt of the French the U.S. cut through the Continental Divide. An average of 50 ships pass through the canal daily. The U.S. is currently preparing the Panama government to independently run the canal by January 1, 2000.

The 30 stamps commemorating the first two decades of the century were issued February 3, 1998, in Washington.



Fig. 1. Panama Canal Centenary Stamp.

Coughlin also discussed the relation of San Diego to the Canal as the first American Pacific port after leaving Panama. San Diego cemented the tie with the Panama-California Exposition held in Balboa Park in 1915 and 1916. The building housing the San Diego History

*(Continued on page 4)*

## REMINDER 1998 Mail Sale

Consignments for the 27th CZSG Mail Sale should be sent to arrive no later than June 20, 1998. Certificates are required of Scott First Issue and #15. An inventory must accompany all consignments. Damaged, soiled, or poorly centered copies of lower value stamps as well as ratty covers are respectfully declined and will be returned to vendor. Ship material insured or registered. The sale will close in late September. Please send material to Jerry Craig, 16900 Baederwood Lane, Derwood, MD 20855-2013.

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**From The Editor**  
**Richard Spielberg**  
**4535 Via Del Buey**  
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I greatly appreciate the opportunity of becoming the fifth editor of *The Canal Zone Philatelist*. My intent as editor is to continue the editorial excellence of and only hope to be able to fill the shoes of my predecessors - Gil Plass, Gary Weiss, Bob Reisinger, and most recently David Leeds.

I recently came across an article by Jim DeVoss in the September 29, 1951 issue of *STAMPS* where he laments that a "great deal of philatelic information is often lost to the stamp world simply because old timers, who undoubtedly know more about their specialty than has ever appeared in print, would pass to the great beyond without making that information available to others." At that time, he was speaking about the February 1949 death of H. A. Robinette. Fortunately for those interested in Canal Zone Philately, the *Canal Zone Study Group* was founded by Jim De Voss, George Brett and Ed Conger in 1952, and through the years the available information was disseminated in publications sponsored by the group: *The Canal Zone Philatelist*, *Canal Zone Stamps*, and the various *Handbooks*.

As editor I intend to facilitate the publication of various works in progress - to name a few - continuation of *ABNCo Canal Zone Archive Material*, updating of the *CZS checklist*, updating of *The Postal Stationery of the Canal Zone*, a *Bibliography of Canal Zone Philately*, etc. I also would like to publish a *Primer of Canal Zone Philately*. The goal for this series of articles and/or handbooks will be twofold: 1) make CZ less formidable with its many overprints and look-alikes and, 2) popularize CZ philately among a wider range of collectors.

Our problem is that there is not a large following out there filling in spaces in the mid- to low-range material. There is a market for the very scarce items, which even then do not command prices commensurate with their scarcity, but the mid-range material is cheap, considering quantities issued and the fact that it is a U.S. possession. I disagree with the opinion that we should not educate our fellow philatelists about our area of interest and publicize the rarity of the material we collect, thereby raising prices. I feel it is better for our hobby for more individuals to be involved and for information to be disseminated beyond just the old timers as DeVoss noted.

One thing that has not changed is the need for articles for the pages of *The Philatelist*... again quoting DeVoss and my predecessors: Weiss (CZP 86:3), Reisinger (CZP 94:4) and Leeds (CZP 103:2): *The toughest task of a philatelic journal is to*

*get the individuals (who have the knowledge) to put their thoughts on paper.* That is the only way to continue the broad scope of *The Canal Zone Philatelist*. I encourage articles submitted by our members highlighting their collecting interest. As editor I am willing to help with writing or rewriting your articles. The important thing is to disseminate the information on these pages.

## Auctions by Jim Crumpacker

It was an active fourth quarter, Oct. 1-Dec. 31, 1997, for auctions of Canal Zone material as befits the season. A good variety of nicely centered stamps and booklet panes was available, but little in the way of better covers or postal stationery appeared.

For the realizations below, the selling price is shown first followed by the catalog value, in parenthesis, from the 1998 Scott's Specialized and any commission is included in the prices given.

- 1, OG, H, XF \$743 (\$550) Bennett
- 1, sl. trop. OG, H, barely F \$275 (\$550) Rumsey
- 2, OG, H, F \$176 (\$225) Bennett
- 3, OG, H, barely F \$264 (\$375) Bennett
- 7, OG, HR, VF \$99 (\$160) Rumsey
- 8, OG, HR, F+ \$104 (\$145) Aldrich
- 14b, CANAL ZONE inverted, OG, H, F, nat. SE, \$176 (\$425) Cherrystone
- 15, "PANAMA" 15mm long, OG, H, F-VF \$2090 (\$3250) Bennett
- 32c, cpl. blkt. of 4 panes, OG (all panes adhere to interl.), NH, VF, cover printed for 1¢ booklet, CZSG 32c.6 \$1155 (\$n/a) Shreves
- 36a, "10 cts." inverted, OG, H, F \$187 (\$250) Rumsey
- 39c, booklet pane of 6, OG, H, F-VF \$358 (\$500) Rumsey
- 39g, booklet pane of 6, handmade, OG, H, F \$688 (\$1000) Rumsey
- 46a, overprint reading down, OG, H, F-VF \$242 (\$375) Shreves
- 48, sl. trop. OG, H, F \$403 (\$550) Drews
- 52b, booklet pane of 6, OG (small part of interl. adheres), H, VF \$242 (\$650) Shreves
- 67, OG, H, F \$264 (\$500) Shreves
- 67, used, VF \$132 (\$200) Rumsey
- 84b, ZONE CANAL, sl. dried OG, H, F+ \$319 (\$350) Cherrystone
- 91c, ZONE CANAL, OG, H, VF \$143 (\$175) Rumsey
- 95, OG, H, F-VF \$48 (\$125) Kukstis
- 157a, silver (bridge) omitted, OG, NH, VF margin copy, small pn \$6613 (\$7000) Regency
- J3, used, VF+ \$48 (\$40) Aldrich
- J8, OG, H, VF, CZSG J8.1 surcharge split horizontally \$86 (\$25) Aldrich

- J14, trop. OG, H, VF \$187 (\$250) Rumsey
- J20c, rose red, double overprint, OG, H, barely F \$253 (\$500) Shreves
- O8, OG, H, VF, CTO as always, \$523 (\$675) Rumsey
- 42-45, OG, NH, F-VF Specimens set \$115 (\$n/a) Regency
- Type A34 "ARMS" OG, NH, F-VF Specimens set of 7 values, 5¢-1 Balboa \$518 (\$n/a) Regency
- flight 3/18/29 by Ira Eaker, France Field CZ to Brownsville, TX. Bliss cover, Cristobal cancel on penalty envelope, VF \$495 (\$n/a) Cherrystone

The addresses of the various auction houses are shown below; please mention CZP should you request a catalog copy from any.

Michael E. Aldrich Auctions, Inc.  
P.O. Box 130484  
Saint Paul, MN 55113

Matthew Bennett, Inc.  
601 Washington Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21204

Cherrystone Auction Galleries  
119 W. 57th St.  
New York, NY 10019

Richard E. Drews Philatelic Auctions  
7139 W. Higgins  
Chicago, IL 60656

Kukstis Auctions, Inc.  
2 Bound Brook Court  
P.O. Box 130  
Scituate, MA 02066

Regency Stamps Ltd.  
Le Chateau Village, #106  
10411 Clayton Road  
St. Louis, MO 63131-2911

Schuyler J. Rumsey Philatelic Auctions  
11 Tillman Place  
San Francisco, CA 94108

Shreves Philatelic Galleries, Inc.  
14131 Midway Rd., Suite 1250  
Dallas, TX 75244-9984

## President's Report (Continued from page 1)

and coordination for our participation in Pacific 97 fell on Tom. The results both at the membership meeting within the show and from feedback at our society table functions were outstanding.

One concern is a gradual decline in CZSG membership, which stood at about 800 members at year end. With the website in operation and the attentions to Panama and the Canal Zone resultant from the turnover by the USA of remaining American facilities to the government of Panama on or before December 31, 1999, improvement in member count should be effected.

We welcome the new Editor of CZP, Richard Spielberg, whose first issue this is and remind everyone to submit lots for the 1998 CZSG Mail Sale to Jerry Craig, whose address and other Sale details appear in this issue.

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Display advertising accepted from CZSG members only at the following rates per insertion:

One column, two inches	\$10.00
One column, five inches	20.00
Two columns, five inches	35.00

No larger advertisements are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Mar., June, Sept., Dec. Copy should be sent to the Editor.

Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Glossy photographs are desirable for figures of stamps or covers; however, enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write, phone, or FAX the Editor. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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Canal Zone Study Group

**Secretary's Report**  
John C. Smith  
408 Redwood Ln.  
Schaumburg, IL 60193

### **DUES ARE DUE!**

We start 1998 with 806 active members, that includes the 81 members that have not yet paid their dues. Hopefully, you have received your 1998 dues notice by now. The dues are STILL \$8.00 for regular membership. If you have not paid your 1998 dues please do so, it will save me from sending out reminder notices. You may even want to consider paying a year or two in advance and save yourself time and postage. Contributing members who pay at least \$15 and Sustaining members who pay at least \$25 will be recognized in the Third Quarter *Philatelist*.

Just a couple of notes on this year's election process. Every election year I receive some constructive criticism during the election period. First comment was the ballots are not private. This may be a valid complaint, I will bring this issue up with the officers. My feeling is we do not have opponents and the cost of separate envelopes would not be worth it. Another regular comment is "why bother?" I guess one could take that viewpoint, no problem, but one, an election is called for in our CZSG bylaws. It's also a way to vote for or not vote for someone you don't feel is appropriate for the job. Your officers all appreciate your vote of support! Last concern is that the ballot seems confusing. Many members vote for only one Board of Director position. So many do so that it means some of our membership think only one out of the three will be elected. Actually all three are to be elected. I will make the next ballot easier to understand. The next election year is 1999. Thank you all for your valued membership. Enjoy the hobby to the fullest!

### **Corrections**

Oureagle-eyed President, Jim Crumpacker, has found a whopper of errors in the 4th qt. 1997 CZP 125:37. Please change the captions in your copy on page 39 at the top of the page to read: Fig. 5. CZSG 64.S, Fig. 6. CZSG 65.S, and Fig. 7 CZSG 66.S. Your retired editor and your proof reader apologize for this blunder.

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*We Need Authors!*

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**Fig. 2. Presentation of Plaques, enlarged "unveiled" Panama Canal Stamp in background. Left to right: Mike Canone, San Diego Post Office, Dr. Ann Bethel, San Diego Historical Society, David Leeds, and Deputy Post Master Michael S. Coughlin.**

## Celebrate the Century

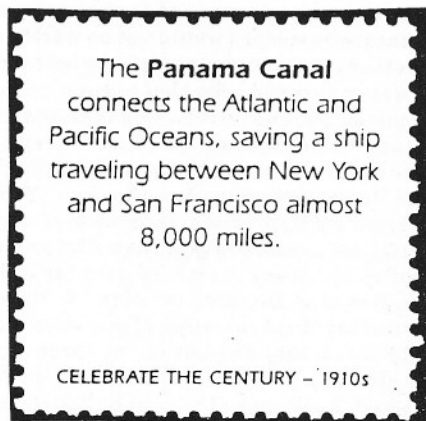
(Continued from page 1)

Museum was the site of the Exposition Station Post Office.

Coughlin was assisted in unveiling the stamp by former CZP Editor David J. Leeds. Framed enlarged reproductions of the stamp with suitable dedicatory plaques were presented to Dr. Ann Bethel, Executive Director of the San Diego Historical Society, and to Leeds.

(Freely borrowed from the USPS Press Release dated San Diego, California, January 28, 1998.)

David J. Leeds



**Fig. 3. Panama Canal Century Stamp, reverse**

## Mail Sale Report

The 26th Mail Sale is completed; all lots have been paid for, and all consignors have been paid.

The sale total is \$65,132 with a gross of \$6,513 (10%) to the CZSG from which the following expense items are deducted: Printing \$1,230, Postage \$1,356, and Miscellaneous \$461 which leaves a net to our treasury of \$3,466 plus checking account interest of \$105, for a grand total of \$3,571.

The total catalog and estimate of the sale came to \$108,663 minus the no-bids, withdrawals, and returns, all of which lower the catalog and estimate to \$97,812. As sales amounted to \$65,132, the percent of catalog and estimate to sales is 67%. That is a high figure — just ask any of the big auction firms in the country.

There were 881 lots in the sale, less 64 no-bids, three lots withdrawn, and four returned lots, for a net of 810 lots sold which is 92% of the total lots in the sale (a very high percentage). There were 2,902 bids placed on the 810 lots which works out to approximately 3.58 bids per lot. Those lots receiving the largest number of bids are: 11 bids on lots 379, 572, and 812; 12 bids on lots 4 and 750; 13 bids on lot 360; and 16 bids on lot 680.

There were 201 bidders; 147 were successful and 54 unsuccessful. There were 27 vendors, two of whom have provided material in all of the previous sales. The notices in *Linn's Stamp News* and *Stamp Collector* brought in 53 requests for catalogs and 19 of those sent in bids, 12 of whom were successful.

The notes and comments accompanying the checks in payment for purchases are of interest, and we quote a few of them: "Again, thank you for your usual good job." "I think this year's catalogue was probably the best one I've seen." "As is the case every year, I greatly appreciate the efforts of those responsible for running the sale." "Thank you and all co-workers for another outstanding mail sale." "Beautiful material." "As always the material was conservatively described and lovely." "Thank you for the great books. You guys do a super job." "A big thanks is due the mail sale committee for their unselfish efforts which made this possible." "As a new CZSG member but a long-time member of a number of philatelic societies, I'm amazed at the quality of the material offered for sale. I've become accustomed to society sales circuits and auctions that contain remnants and common items; certainly the CZSG puts on a class act." "When I want to dispose of any Canal Zone material, the mail sale will be my first choice." The committee thanks all of you who wrote the many complimentary notes which accompanied your payments.

In conclusion we would like to say that George Campbell came to San Francisco from his home in New Jersey, and due to his mastery of the adding machine made short work of balancing the books. Also on board for mailing out the lots were Bud Bibbins, Ray Erickson and Sondra, Russ and Kathy Samuels (Russ put together the photo plates — the catalog was printed by Office Depot — a great job!), Tom Brougham, Ed and Judy Jarvis, and Maggie and Dick Salz. Thanks to all of you who helped with the sale, who provided the great material, who bought the stamps and covers, and etc., and to the kitchen department who fed the workers lunch and dinner on mail-out day.

We are very fortunate to have a new mail sale manager on the East coast — Jerry Craig — who will handle the 27th consecutive sale. He has excellent qualifications for handling the job: he is retired (gives him plenty of time to meet deadlines) and has assisted Dick Bates with previous sales. Don't delay in sending him your lots for the 27th mail sale.

Dick Salz for the  
West Coast Mail Sale  
Committee

*Patronize  
Our Advertisers*

# ABNCo Specimens of the 1924 Canal Zone Coat of Arms Series

by James W. Crumpacker, Gary B. Weiss, and David J. Leeds

The series on the American Bank Note Company (ABNCo) Canal Zone archive Specimen stamps continues with this article on Scott Nos. 68 and 69 plus the unissued seven values, (5c through 1 Balboa) of the Type A34 Coat of Arms stamps. See figures 1-9.

ment resulted in changeover to United States stamps with Canal Zone overprints.

The various denominations were printed in sheets of 200 (20x10) and have a narrow vertical gutter which divides the sheets into two 10x10 panes of 100. All material

auction of these Canal Zone items. However, the Panama production files from the auction noted a "1A" printing, with this "1A" also receiving the Canal Zone overprint.

## Marginal Selvage Markings

The following marginal markings were seen. For brevity, only the markings of the 1c, 2c, and 5c archive material are reported:

### 1c (left pane)

Top selvage, Pos 1, 3 short bars, one long bar.

Top selvage, Pos 6, handstamped red F-7427.

Top selvage, Pos 9-10, F-7427, 27 over Pos 10.

Top rt corner selvage to UR of Pos 10, vert guideline.

Bottom selvage, Pos 91, 3 short bars, 1 long bar.

Bottom selvage, to LR Pos 100, vert guideline.

*Note: Nearly all left selvage is missing; traces of a midline exists between Pos 41 and 51. Right selvage is large and shows second row of perforations at extreme right (gutter snipe)*

(Continued on page 6)



Fig. 1. Archive 1c Scott #68, CZSG 68.S, with large type "RETURN TO ISSUE ROOM" handstamp, and red "F7427" above Pos. 5, Right Pane.

As is pointed out in *Canal Zone Stamps* (p. 118), the 1c and 2c stamps with overprint went on sale in the Canal Zone during early February 1924, but sale of the unoverprinted Panama equivalents was delayed in Panama until May, 1924. The government of Panama also ordered a 1/2c stamp; this denomination was not selected for use by the Canal Zone Postal Service.

All values have the Type V overprint in black, reading up.

As Canal Zone regular issues, the use of Scott Nos. 68 and 69 was short-lived with post office sales ending June 30, 1924 and postal usage terminating August 31, 1924. All remainders, including the never issued 5c - 1B, were burned in 1937. The abrogation of the Taft Agree-

from the archives, except the 2c (due to missing selvage), have the work order number F-7427 engraved in the top right corner of each pane of 100. This is consistent with the information given in CZS, which also states there were two plates of the 2c, a "1A" and a "2A", both with the numerals reversed. These are, per CZS, located above Pos 9-10R.

Both "right half" panes of the 1c from the Specimen archives have a "2A" (numerals reversed) above Pos 9-10. There was no example of a "1A" pane of the 1c in the material from the Christie's 1990



Fig. 4. Archive 10c, CZSG 69.BS, Bars above Pos. 1, Left Pane.



Fig. 2. Archive 2c Scott #69, CZSG 69.S, Bars above Pos. 1, Left Pane.



Fig. 3. Archive 5c, CZSG 69.AS, with large type "RETURN TO ISSUE ROOM" handstamp, and red "F7427" above Pos. 5.



# **ABNCo Specimens** (Continued from page 5)

## **1c (right panes)**

Top selvage, Pos 4, handstamped red F7427 (same above Pos 5 of second rt pane).  
Top selvage, Pos 8-9, F-7427, 427 over Pos 9.  
Top selvage, Pos 9, 2 (reversed).  
Top selvage, Pos 9-10, A and 3 short bars, 1 long bar.  
Right selvage, Pos 50, 60, Midlines.  
Bottom selvage, Pos 100, 3 short bars, 1 long bar.  
*Note: Left selvage is missing*

## **2c (left pane)**

Top selvage, Pos 1, 3 short bars, 1 long bar.  
Top selvage, Pos 5, 6, vertical midline.  
Top selvage, Pos 7, handstamped red F-7427.  
Top selvage, Pos 9, F. (This pane contained no Pos 10, top or any right selvage for any Pos.)  
Bottom selvage, Pos 91, 3 short bars, 1 long bar.  
Bottom selvage, Pos 95, 96, vertical midline.  
*Note: Nearly all left selvage is missing; traces of a midline exists between Pos 41 and 51.*

## **2c (right pane)**

Top selvage, Pos 5, fragment of handstamped red F7.  
*Note: This pane was missing 60% of top selvage and 50% of right selvage.*  
Top selvage, Pos 5, 6, vertical midline.  
Rt selvage, Pos 50, 60, midline.  
Bottom selvage, Pos 95, 96, vertical midline.  
Bottom selvage, Pos 100, 3 short bars, 1 long bar.  
*Note: Only the 2c panes have the vertical midline at top Pos 5/6 and bottom Pos 95/96. None of the other 24 panes of this series have this marking.*

## **5c (left pane)**

Top selvage, Pos 1, 3 short bars, 1 long bar.  
Top selvage, Pos 6, handstamped red F-7427 (Same is above Pos 7 of the other left pane.)  
Top selvage, Pos 9, F-742, 7 over Pos. 10  
Top selvage, Pos 10, 7.



**Fig. 5. Archive 12c, CZSG 69.CS, Bars below Pos. 91, Left Pane.**



**Fig. 6. Archive 15c, CZSG 69.DS, Engraved "F-7427" (Pos. 9) and bars above Pos. 10.**

Left selvage, Pos 41, 51, Midline.  
Bottom selvage, Pos 91, 3 short bars, 1 long bar.  
*Note: Neither of these left side panes had any selvage on their right edge; the one right side pane has a full vertical gutter at its left.*

## **5c (right pane; designated A)**

Top left corner selvage to UL of Pos 1, vert guideline.  
Top selvage, Pos 5, handstamped red F-7427  
Top selvage, Pos 9, F-7427.  
Top selvage, Pos 10, 3 short bars, 1 long bar.  
Rt selvage, Pos 50, 60, Midline.  
Bottom left corner selvage to LL of Pos 91, vertical guideline.  
Bottom selvage, Pos 100, 3 short bars, 1 long bar.

Many specimen panes have a violet handstamp date of OCT 17 1923 in the upper right selvage:

1c, on the two right side panes, not on the one left side pane. 2c, not on either pane, since the necessary selvage is missing. 5c, on the one right side pane only, not on either of the two left side panes. 10c and 12c, on the three panes of each value, all of which are left side panes. 15c, 24c, 50c, and B/1, on the three panes of each value, all of which are right side panes.



**Fig. 7. Archive 24c, CZSG 69.ES, Center line in right selvage between Pos. 50 and 60, Left Pane.**

In addition, there are two types of "Return to..." handstamps on this group of panes; both types have been seen before on the ABNCo Specimen issues. One or the other of these appears on 10 of the 26 panes of this issue:

**RETURN TO  
ISSUE ROOM  
to be held for reference**

and

**Return to  
RECORD & SPECIMEN DEPT.**

## **SPECIMEN Overprints:**

The SPECIMEN overprint runs 11.2mm by 2.2mm  $\pm$  0.1mm and is red. For further basic information on the Coat of Arms Specimen stamps please refer to the Check List tables in CZP 117:39.

Four stamps in this group have a double SPECIMEN overprint:

- 50c, pos 83, A pane
- 1 B, pos 77, A pane
- 1 B, pos 27, B pane
- 1 B, pos 73, C pane

The 50c is a quite firm double imprint; the others may be due to a ABNCo employee accidentally disturbing ink as he moved along with his metallic SPECIMEN handstamp die, which nearly always makes a heavy impression into the stamp itself.

Pos. 72 of the left half 2c pane has two circular punch holes instead of the usual one. A slight intrusion is made into Pos. 82 by one of these.



Fig. 8. Archive 50c, CZSG 69.FS, Double SPECIMEN overprint. Pos. 83, A Pane.

### CANAL ZONE Overprints:

Lateral spacing between CANAL and ZONE was constant in that there are no overt C over Z or L over E varieties. No study of broken letters has been made.

It is extremely likely that the CANAL / ZONE overprint form which was used to overprint the "left side" panes (one each) of the 1c and 2c was also used to overprint all of the 5c through 1B panes. Only for the (one) "right side" 5c pane is this arguable. From the relative positions of the engraved F-7427 on the 5c panes the authors believe two overprint plates were used for this value. There is no evidence that more than one C - Z overprint plate for the 10c through 1B values existed as only left or right panes were in the holdings. The similarity of the left and right panes, for these denominations, suggests only one overprint plate of 100 subjects.

The standard CANAL to ZONE spacing on all these panes is 8.0mm to 8.25mm with the considerable majority at 8.1mm to 8.2mm.

The most surprising finding of this study is the existence of spacing varieties present on the specimen panes and not previously reported for the regular stamps and essays. A detailed listing including positions is provided below.

Collectors are urged to check their holdings, especially essays, to see if these varieties can be confirmed on the issued stamps. The easiest spacing variety to locate being position 2 in an upper left corner block of Scott No. 69. These findings should be communicated to the editor.

### The exceptions / full spacing listings:

#### 1c (the left pane only)

Pos 21, 39, 91 = 8.5mm.  
Pos 57 = 8.75mm

#### 1c (two right panes)

Pos 2 = 7.8mm  
Pos 22 = 7.5mm  
Pos 69 = 8.5mm

#### 2c (the only left pane)

Pos 2, 21, 39, 69, 98 = 8.5mm  
Pos 60 = 7.75mm

#### 2c (the only right pane)

Pos 2 = 7.85mm  
Pos 22 = 7.5mm  
Pos 43, 69 = 8.5mm

#### 5c (two left panes)

Pos 21, 39, 44, 91, 98, = 8.4 - 8.5mm  
Pos 57 = 8.75mm  
Pos 60 = 7.8mm

#### 5c (the only right pane)

Pos 22 = 7.5mm  
Pos 46 = 7.8mm

#### 10c (three panes)

Pos 3 = 8.5 - 8.6mm  
Pos 10 on one pane only, 21, 39, 44, 69 one pane only, 98 = 8.4 - 8.5mm  
Pos 57 = 8.75mm  
Pos 60 = 7.8mm

#### 12c (three panes)

Pos 3 = 8.7mm  
Pos 13 on two of three panes, 21, 39, 44, 98 = 8.4 - 8.5mm  
Pos 57 = 8.75mm  
Pos 60 = 7.8mm

#### 15c (three panes)

Pos 3 = 8.7 on one of three panes; normal 8.2mm on other panes  
Pos 7 on two of three panes, 21, 39, 44, 69 one pane only, 98 on two of three panes = 8.4 - 8.5mm  
Pos 57 = 8.75mm  
Pos 60 = 7.8mm

#### 24c (three panes)

Pos 3 = 8.7mm on two of three panes, normal 8.2mm on other pane.  
Pos 9 on one pane only, 13 on two of three panes, 21, 39 on one of three

panes, 44 on two of three panes, 69 on two of three panes, 98 = 8.4 - 8.5mm  
Pos 57 = 8.75mm  
Pos 60 = 7.8mm

#### 50c (three panes)

Pos 2 on one pane only, 21, 39, 44, 69 on one pane only, 98 = 8.4 - 8.5mm  
Pos 57 = 8.75mm  
Pos 60 = 7.8mm

#### 1B (three panes)

Pos 3 = 8.6 - 8.7mm on two of three panes, normal 8.25mm on the other pane  
Pos 13 on one pane only, 21, 39, 44, 69 on one pane only, 98 = 8.4 - 8.5mm  
Pos 57 = 8.75mm  
Pos 60 = 7.8mm

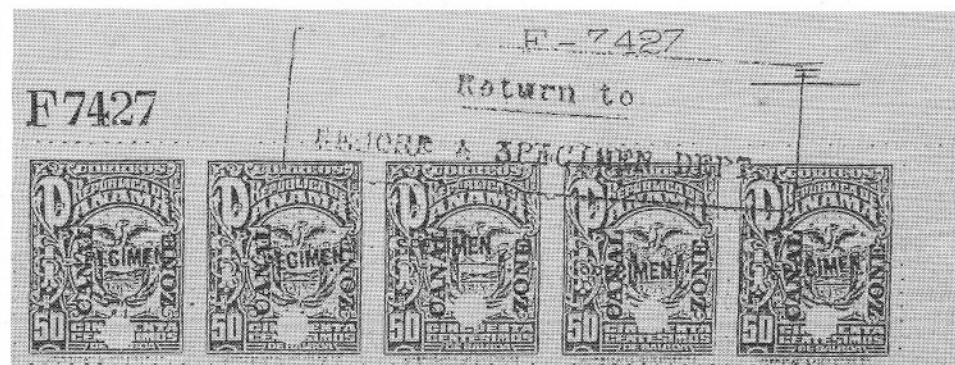


Fig. 9. Archive 50c, CZSG 68.FS, with small type "Return to... DEPT." handstamp, red "F7427" (Pos. 6), Engraved F-7427 (Pos. 8-9) and bars above Pos. 10, Right Pane.



Fig. 10. Archive 1B, CZSG 69.GS, Engraved "F-7427" (Pos. 9) and bars above Pos. 10, Right Pane.

(Continued on page 8)



## ABNCo Specimens (Continued from page 7)

The authors certainly hope someone can figure out how the CANAL to ZONE spacings on Pos. 3 came to be the way they are. Did the type slug fall out at some point, get bumped, or loosened up in printing?

### Dropped E's

Dropped E's of ZONE were present on an average of 10% of all positions (see exception below). This is subjective; a few were really due to a slightly raised ZON in ZONE and not any displacement in the E. The dropped E's were concentrated on horizontal rows 4 to 8. None were in row 10 in any pane.

The dropped E's appear to be in the same positions on all panes with the exception of the 5c pane A, which is not remotely like any other pane in this group. Rather, on this 5c they essentially occur in the same 15± positions as the two 1c right half panes and the only 2c right half pane.

The archive specimens did not include examples of the second color of the 2c. Therefore, no information as to specific printings is available.

## Election Committee Report

The Canal Zone Study Group Elections Committee has submitted its report via Secretary John C. Smith for the recently concluded balloting for CZSG Officers and Directors.

These Officers and Directors will serve for the period Jan. 1, 1998 through Dec. 31, 1999.

Results are as follows:

#### President

James W. Crumpacker ..... 451 votes  
Vice President

Richard H. Salz ..... 460 votes  
Secretary

John C. Smith ..... 455 votes  
Treasurer

Richard F. Larkin ..... 452 votes  
Directors

Paul F. Ammons ..... 424 votes  
Richard D. Bates, Jr. .... 428 votes  
Gary B. Weiss ..... 424 votes

James W. Crumpacker, President

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